

Population's Attitude Towards Ecological Problems (Case Study of Mestia Municipality)

Mariam Elizbarashvili, Tamar Khardziani, Kakhaber Bilashvili,
Tengiz Gordeziani, Tea Mukbniani, Tamar Khuntelia, Mariam Sichinava,
Mariam Gagoshashvili, Marika Basilade, Natia Qvrivishvili
E-mail: mariam.elizbarashvili@tsu.ge

Department of Geography, Faculty of Exact and Natural Sciences,
Iv.Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University,
0179, Tbilisi, I.Chavchavadze #3

The goal of our research is the study/displaying of population's attitude in one of the mountain regions of Georgia – Mestia municipality, towards ecological problems in the context of regional development.

Mestia municipality is one of the largest municipalities of Georgia, population of which is relatively small taking into account its area. Rapid development of region and expansion of corresponding infrastructure takes place here from touristic viewpoint.

Questionnaire survey was conducted among Mestia municipality population. SPSS package was used for statistical analysis of results of polling.

The most important ecological problems of Mestia municipality population were identified as a result of the research.

Obtained results are very important for elaboration of strategy of sustainable development of region, and are also quite interesting on a global scale as spectacular example of mutual relationship of environment and mountain regions' population.

References

1. Irene Lorenzoni, Nick F. Pidgeon. (2006). Public Views on Climate Change: European and USA Perspectives, *Climatic Change*, Volume 77, Issue 1-2, 73-95.
2. Kingston R., Carver S., Evans A., Turton I., (2000) Web-based public participation geographical information systems: an aid to local environmental decision-making. *Computers, Environment and Urban Systems*, Volume 24, Issue 2, 109–125.
3. Sabine Landau, Brian S. Everitt, (2004) *A Handbook of Statistical Analyses using SPSS*
http://www.academia.dk/BiologiskAntropologi/Epidemiologi/PDF/SPSS_Statistical_Analyses_using_SPSS.pdf
4. Tom W. Smith (2010), *Public Attitudes towards Climate Change & Other Environmental Issues across Time and Countries, 1993-2010*; NORC at the University of Chicago.
http://www.norc.org/PDFs/Public_Attitudes_Climate_Change.pdf